

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

In accordance with Rules 56, 97 and 98 of the Rules of Practice in Patent Cases (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98), the publications listed on the modified Form PTO/SB/08 are cited for consideration by the Examiner. Copies of the non-U.S. patent documents and miscellaneous publications are enclosed.

Submission of the references provided in this Information Disclosure is not intended to constitute an admission that any reference referred to herein is prior art for this invention unless specially designated as such. Also, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) exists.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c), before issuance of an Office action which closes prosecution in the application. Applicants enclose Form PTO 2038 which gives authorization to charge the firm's credit card in the amount of \$180.00 for consideration of this paper. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this filing to Deposit Account No. 11-0855.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/224,435  
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND  
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Respectfully submitted,



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